



H.R. 4343 – Fair Treatment for Pilots Act

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 4343 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative James Oberstar (D-MN) on December 11, 2007.

H.R. 4343 is expected to be considered on December 11, 2007.

BACKGROUND

Beginning in 1960, pilots over the age of 60 have been prohibited from flying revenue passenger flights.

During the 1990's, the European Joint Aviation Authority implemented a rule that allowed pilots up to age 65 to fly multi-crew aircraft. The International Civil Aviation Organization adopted this rule as well.

SUMMARY

H.R. 4343 increases the mandatory pilot retirement age to 65. Under this legislation, pilots over the age of 60 would have to renew their First-Class Medical Certificate every six months, as well as pass a line check every six months. This provision is not retroactive to pilots who turned 60 prior to the enactment of this legislation.

The legislation applies the International Civil Aviation Organization standard that allows pilots over the age of 60 to serve as pilot-in-command in flights between the United States and another country only if there is another pilot less than 60 years of age on the flight deck.

The legislation also requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to submit a report to Congress regarding the effect, if any, on aviation safety of the adjustment of pilot age standards.

COST

The Congressional Budget Office estimates "that developing and enforcing new regulations to implement H.R. 3985 would cost the agency about \$500,000 in fiscal year 2008 and less than \$300,000 each year thereafter. First-year costs include onetime systems upgrades and training expenses. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues." [CBO Cost Estimate](#)

STAFF CONTACT

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